

1. (currently amended) A method for Internet content delivery ~~over the internet~~, comprising:

establishing a content delivery network at network ~~edge points~~ locations, the content delivery network comprising a set of content servers for ~~hosting web~~ serving content resources, wherein a subset of the set of content servers is located at an Internet data center;

~~continuously monitoring traffic conditions on the internet to generate a set of network performance metrics selected from a group of metrics consisting essentially of: link latency, packet loss rates at routers, available link capacity, network hop distance, AS path information, and test page downloads times;~~

~~aggregating given network performance metrics;~~

~~using the aggregated network performance metrics to construct a network map that identifies the cost of communication between IP blocks and the content servers; and~~

~~responsive to a client browser request for a web resource, using the network map to identify a given one of the set of content servers from which the resource may be obtained~~

for each Internet Protocol (IP) address block from which requests for content resources are expected to be received, generating a candidate list of Internet data centers to be used to service the requests for content resources, wherein the candidate list of Internet data centers is generated using (i) geographic information from one or more Internet registry databases identifying a geographic location of the IP address block, (ii) BGP route information collected from BGP peers participating in BGP (BGP) sessions, (iii) autonomous system (AS) information, and (iv) data collected from one or more network performance metric tests; and;

for the IP address block, selecting at least one of the Internet data centers from the candidate list to be used to service the requests for content resources, wherein the selected Internet data center is written into a network map;

providing the network map to a domain name service (DNS) associated with the content delivery network; and

in response to a DNS query initiated from a client browser and received at the domain name service associated with the content delivery network, using the network map to identify an Internet data center to be used to service a request for a content resource.

2. (new) The method for Internet content delivery as described in claim 1 wherein the selecting step is performed by executing an algorithm.
3. (new) The method for Internet content delivery as described in claim 2 wherein the algorithm is a multi-commodity bipartite, min-cost flow algorithm.
4. (new) The method for Internet content delivery as described in claim 3 wherein the flow algorithm uses a graph that includes a first set of nodes, and a second set of nodes, wherein a node of the first set of nodes represents an IP address block and a node of the second set of nodes represents a single link at an Internet data center on the list of candidate data centers.
5. (new) The method for Internet content delivery as described in claim 4 wherein a node of the first set of nodes is connected to a node of the second set of nodes by a link that has a communication cost associated therewith.
6. (new) The method for Internet content delivery as described in claim 1 wherein the BGP sessions include internal BGP (iBGP) sessions.
7. (new) The method for Internet content delivery as described in claim 1 wherein the content resources include a web resource.
8. (new) The method for Internet content delivery as described in claim 1 wherein the selected Internet data center is nearby the IP address block.